

Cheryl Marlar
CA

July 14, 2010

Title of the Hearing: Social Security at 75 Years

Members of The Committee on Ways and Means

I urge you to pass the Social Security Fairness Act (S484 & HR235) to repeal the WEP and GPO! I worked for over 30 years in the private sector before I became a teacher. Only 28 of those years will count towards my social security income benefits because I did not meet the financial cap necessary. For 10 of those years I drove a school bus for special education without any other type of retirement plan. Now I've learned that I will only receive 80% of the social security I would otherwise be entitled to if I didn't go in to teaching. I really think this is unfair and deters a lot of people from going into teaching.

Public employees like educators, police officers, and firefighters should not suffer a penalty for dedicating their lives to public services. These Social Security Fairness Acts should be repealed immediately for retired educators, those still in the profession, and those seeking to enter the profession cannot wait any longer for action.

I urge Congress to move the Social Security Fairness Act forward for a vote. In addition, if Congress takes up overall social security reform, I urge inclusion of repeal of the GPO and WEP as part of any reform package.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Marlar
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